

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Please cancel Claims 1-25, 29 and 31-32, without prejudice.**

**Please amend Claim 26 as follows.**

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently amended) A process of manufacturing cellulose acetate, the process comprising:

steaming a material selected from one or more of bagasse, kenaf, reeds and rice straw in a pressure vessel in a sub-critical state at a temperature of about 150 to 350°C. and a pressure of about 15 to 29 MPa for about 10 to 30 minutes to obtain a mixture of a solid product and a solution product, wherein the solid product comprises cellulose, wherein the solution product comprises soluble hemicelluloses and polyphenol converted from lignin separated from lignocelluloses, and wherein the sub-critical state is such that the solid product and the solution product are obtained from the material solely due to the temperature and pressure conditions of the state;

~~filtering the steamed material mixture with a filtering device to obtain a separate the solid product;~~ and

dehydrating and acetylating the solid product ~~by adding in the presence of acetic anhydride and sulfuric acid to~~ obtain cellulose acetate from the solid product.

27. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed at a temperature of about 150 to 250°C and a pressure of about 15 to 25 MPa, respectively.

28. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed at a temperature of about 180 to 200°C. and a pressure of about 25 to 28 MPa, respectively.

29. (Cancelled)

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30. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the steaming is performed for about 15 to 20 minutes.

31-32. (Cancelled)